

production for all the animals/herd. However, the average cost of milk production is estimated as under :-

	IVRI, Izatnagar	NDRI, Karnal
Milk	Rs. 7.45 per litre	Rs. 7.29 per litre

(b) The annual milk production, the herd strength, fodder production and consumption alongwith the concentrates given to animals during the last three years is as under :-

	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
<i>(i) Milk Production (in litres)</i>			
IVRI :	7,98,538	6,67,701	5,81,520
NDRI :	16,87,371	14,95,236	14,29,038
<i>(ii) Herd Strength (All age groups-males & females)</i>			
IVRI :	1,004	964	877
(Cattle, Buffalo)			
NDRI :	1,672	1,603	1,627
(Cattle, Buffalo, Goat)			
<i>(iii) Fodder Production & Consumption (in quintals)</i>			
IVRI :	73,020	68,365	59,433
NDRI :	2,42,116	2,44,010	2,42,868
<i>(iv) Concentrate Consumption (in quintals)</i>			
IVRI :	10,318	9,104	9,542
NDRI :	11,859	11,487	11,370

Delay in Import of Wheat

2616. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether a huge Canadian export consignment of wheat to India is held up due to the bad weather;

(b) if so, the extent to which the delay in importing the wheat from Canada is creating shortage of wheat in India;

(c) whether India had recently also signed a wheat import deal with Austria; and

(d) if so, the quantity to be imported and the price per ton thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir. There has been some delay in shipment of 2.50 lakh MTs of wheat contracted for import from Canada due to blizzards in Canada.

(b) There is no shortage of wheat in India on account of delay in shipment of contracted quantity of wheat for import from Canada. A quantity of 5.40 lakh

tonnes of imported wheat from Australia has already arrived at Indian ports as on 4.3.1997 and unloading is in progress.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Root Wilt Disease

2617. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :
PROF. P.J. KURIEN :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of trees/extent of land under the coconut cultivation affected by the root wilt disease in Kerala;

(b) the annual loss suffered by the State Government as a result thereof during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) the details of research work carried out to eliminate the disease;

(d) the achievement made so far in this connection;

(e) the further steps proposed to be taken to prevent the crop from such disease; and

(f) the allocation made for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Root wilt disease of coconut is prevalent in eight Southern districts of Kerala. According to survey conducted by ICAR during 1984-85, the disease is prevalent in an area of 4.10 lakh hectares affecting approximately 3.0 lakh trees.

(b) As no survey has been conducted during last 3 years, the extent of loss cannot be estimated.

(c) and (d) The reasearch works undertaken to control root wilt disease are complete eradication of affected palms and replanting with healthy ones, disease management trials including mixed farming, inter-cropping, nutrient and water management studies, and varietal screening to identify tolerant/resistant palms. As a result of these recommended for adoption.

(e) and (f) The Coconut Development Board under Ministry of Agriculture is implementing a project on Integrated Farming in coconut holdings for productivity improvement in Kerala with an outlay of Rs. 25 crores for the 8th Plan. Assistance is provided to the farmers for cutting and removal of disease affected/unproductive senile palms @ Rs. 200/- per palm ; replanting with quality seedlings @ Rs. 5/- per seedling ; fertiliser application and plant protection @ Rs. 8/- per palm; and multi-species cropping @ Rs. 200/- per ha.